

Oundle and Thrapston Rural
District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1949,

together with the Report of the

Sanitary Officers

A. McINNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	A. FLETTON, ESQ.
<i>Vice-Chairman of the Council</i>	...	...	...	...	W. WOODIN, ESQ.
<i>Chairman, Public Health Committee</i>	...	...	...	...	L. BAXTER, ESQ.
<i>Vice-Chairman, Public Health Committee</i>	R. H. WARD, ESQ.

<i>Clerk of the Council</i>	H. H. HASSALL.
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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	...	A. MCINNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Sanitary Officers</i>	...	S. PARGETER, C.R.S.I.
		B. LEWIS, M.R.S.I., A.I.Hsg.

<i>Surveyor</i>	F. T. JENNINGS, A.I.A.S.
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COUNCIL OFFICES,
THRAPSTON,
KETTERING.

July, 1950.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

The statistics for the year show no special feature although the health of the District appears to be reasonably good. There has been good progress in the provision of piped water supplies ; 29 out of the 51 villages now having a main supply. This improvement in water supplies must inevitably call for more efficient sewage disposal.

Before 5/7/48, administrative authority placed emphasis on Preventive Medicine, it is now on Curative Medicine. In general, the one treated disease as a social problem the other gives relief to the diseased individual. Health, whether of the individual or of the State, is not a function of prevention or of cure separately, but is a function of both together. No evidence of the value of prevention is so spectacular or so convincing as the reduction of the Infantile Mortality rate from over 150 per 1,000 births in 1900 to about 30 per 1,000 in 1949. The decrease in the maternal mortality rate on the other hand is due largely to the curative drugs, the sulphonamides and penicillin. In the case of Tuberculosis, although the cause has been known for many years, no specific cure has emerged. Relief in this disease is still to be found in social amelioration. Venereal disease used to be such a problem as that of Tuberculosis requiring preventative and curative efforts. Curative medicine has found a specific cure in Penicillin. The problem of prevention of venereal disease still remains. Although curative medicine has made great advances in the treatment of objective diseases, that is diseases with a known cause. There has not been the same advance in the treatment of subjective diseases, that is diseases of the mental processes. The central nervous system receives stimuli from the environment external to itself. and stimuli from the internal environment of the human body. The interpretation of these stimuli is a function of our nature or make up, coloured by our hopes and fears. Good health implies that the organs of the body function without registration in consciousness. When the heart thumps and the bowels squeeze, there may be objective diseases in these organs, or the thump and the squeeze may be purely subjective or functional without any objective explanation. "Imagining some fear how easy is a bush supposed a Bear," is sound psychology. Introspection is the cause of at least 50 % of the causes of illness crowding a doctor's surgery. This is an aspect problem of an old but worsening medical problem.

A. McINNES,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA AND STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	107,337
Population (Registrar-General's figures)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,440
Number of Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,411
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£64,125
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£240

Live Births.				<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	313	157	156
Illegitimate	...	...	...	21	11	10
				334	168	166

Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	...	18.05
Rate per 1,000 Population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	16.70

Stillbirths.

A "stillbirth" is defined—"stillbirth and stillborn shall apply to any child which has issued forth from its mother after the 28th week of pregnancy which did not at any time after being completely expelled from its mother breathe or show any other signs of life."

				<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	11	7	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	—
				12	8	4

Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	...	0.65
Rate per 1,000 Population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	0.39

Deaths (All Causes).				<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
				248	128	120

Death Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	13.42
Death Rate per 1,000 Population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	11.7
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	NIL

For the purpose of comparing the death rate of an area such as this with the death rate of the whole country, the "crude" death rate is multiplied by a factor which is given by the Registrar-General.

The factor for the district is 0.88. When the "crude" death rate is multiplied by this factor the result is the standard death rate, which is a rate comparable with the rate for the whole of the country. The standard death rate was thus 13.42×0.88 , which is 11.81 per thousand population, that for the whole of the country being 11.70.

Infant Mortality.

Oundle and District Rural District	...	27.0 per 1,000 live births.
England and Wales	...	32.0 per 1,000 live birth.

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Death Rates.

YEAR.	Oundle and Thrapston.			England and Wales.			Northamptonshire.	
1945	12.30	...	11.40	...	12.34
1946	12.80	...	11.50	...	12.00
1947	12.26	...	12.00	...	12.43
1948	9.28	...	10.80	...	11.00
1949	11.81	...	11.70	...	—

Birth Rates.

1945	...	...	...	21.40	...	16.10	...	18.98
1946	...	...	...	17.50	...	19.10	...	19.17
1947	...	...	...	21.08	...	20.50	...	20.42
1948	...	...	...	17.51	...	17.90	...	17.46
1949	...	...	...	18.03	...	16.70	...	—

Illegitimate Births.

There were 21 Illegitimate births assigned to the District in 1949 (11 males, 10 females).

Infant Mortality.

The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 6 males and 3 females.

For the fourth successive year there was no death ascribed to puerperal causes or other conditions associated with child-birth.

SECTION B.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Northampton, examines material submitted by general practitioners in the Area, and also carry out the bacteriological examination of water and other samples submitted from this district by the Sanitary Officers.

The County Laboratory carry out all examinations of milk samples by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

Chemical analyses of water supplies and presumptive B.Coli tests are carried out by the Public Analyst, Cambridge.

(a) Diphtheria Anti-Toxin.

A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the Council Offices at Oundle and Thrapston, the Rushden Sanatorium, Doddington Road Hospital, Wellingborough, and Thrapston Police Station.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

The arrangements are as follows :—

<i>Villages.</i>	<i>Telephone Number</i>
Apethorpe, King's Cliffe, Nassington, Woodnewton, Tarwell ...	King's Cliffe 237
Aldwinckle, Clapton, Lilford, Lowick, Pilton, Thorpe Achurch, Titchmarsh, Wadenhoe	Clapton 22
Ashton, Barnwell, Benefield, Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorn, Hemington, Luddington, Lutton, Polebrooke, Southwick, Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Warmington	Oundle 3196
Brigstock, Sudborough	Brigstock 258
Bulwick, Blatherwycke, Deene, Deenethorpe, Fineshade, Harringworth, Laxton, Wakerley	Bulwick 207
Collyweston, Duddington, Easton-on-the-Hill	Stamford 2271
Chelveston	Rushden 2810
Hargrave	Raunds 43
Denford, Great Addington, Islip, Little Addington, Ringstead, Slipton, Thrapston, Twywell, Woodford	Thrapston 57.

(d) Ambulances.

The scheme of ambulance services now available under the National Health Service Act is :—

Islip Ambulance.—Aldwinckle, Clapton, Denford, Islip, Lowick, Sudborough, Slipton, Thrapston, Titchmarsh, Thorpe, Twywell, Woodford.

Oundle Ambulance.—Ashton, Apethorpe, Barnwell, Benefield, Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorn, Hemington, King's Cliffe, Lilford, Luddington, Lutton, Nassington, Pilton, Polebrooke, Southwick, Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Wadenhoe, Warmington, Woodnewton, Yarwell.

Higham Ferrers Ambulance.—Chelveston-cum-Caldecote.

Irthlingborough Ambulance.—Great Addington, Little Addington.

Weldon Ambulance.—Blatherwycke, Brigstock, Bulwick, Deene, Deenethorpe, Fineshade, Harringworth, Laxton, Wakerley.

Raunds Ambulance.—Hargrave, Ringstead.

Reciprocal arrangements have been made with Kesteven County Council to supply from Stamford the villages of Easton-on-the-Hill, Collyweston and Duddington.

Ambulance for Infectious Diseases.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious disease cases during 1949 were stationed at Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton.

At the beginning of 1949 Kettering and Wellingborough Isolation Hospitals were closed. The Northampton Isolation Hospital is now the only one remaining open to serve this area.

(e) National Assistance Act, 1948.

Section 47 of this Act, which came into operation in July 5th, 1948, confers on all Sanitary Authorities the power to remove to a suitable hospital or other place, persons who :—

(a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions ; and

(b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

No formal action under this Act was required to be taken during the year.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The two Regional Schemes at Woodford and Barnwell together with private mains, have provided an adequate supply of water for 29 of the 51 parishes.

During the year, 82 samples of these supplies ^{were} ~~was~~ submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. Of these, 60 were reported as being satisfactory, and 22 as unsatisfactory.

Extensions of the water main to the Central Area of the district commenced in 1948, have now provided satisfactory supplies to the parishes of Thorpe Achurch, Aldwinckle, Wadenhoe and Pilton.

The Council are ensuring that every occupied dwelling without a satisfactory water supply, and to which the main is now available shall connect to the main service. One hundred and ninety-five houses in this scheme have now been connected.

An extension of the water main in the Denford Ash area has now provided a satisfactory supply to eight dwellings.

Extensions of the main to Lilford and Stoke Doyle are now under construction. Further extensions are contemplated during 1950 in what is known as the Eight Parish Scheme, which will serve Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorn, Nassington, Southwick, Tansor, Woodnewton and Yarwell.

In the various parishes where mains are available, there is still a large number of houses which depend upon well water supplies. During the year, 61 of these dwellings were connected to the mains as the result of informal action, and five by statutory proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936.

WATER SUPPLIES.

DETAILS OF SUPPLIES TO INDIVIDUAL HOUSES.

PARISH.	Total No. of Houses	Supply inside House			Supply outside House			
		Main	Pump	Gravity	Well	Stand- pipe	Gravity	Rain water
Aldwincle ...	108	48	3	5	10	41	1	—
Apethorpe ...	50	41	5	3	1	—	—	—
Ashton ...	52	41	5	—	5	1	—	—
Barnwell ...	134	88	—	—	15	31	—	—
Benefield ...	118	37	1	6	8	65	—	1
Blatherwycke ...	31	2	2	—	17	—	10	—
Brigstock ...	320	182	7	2	12	116	1	—
Bulwick ...	60	—	5	12	6	—	37	—
Chelveston ...	100	8	4	—	52	36	—	—
Clapton ...	40	24	—	—	11	5	—	—
Collyweston ...	144	3	12	—	104	15	10	—
Cotterstock... ..	38	—	8	—	30	—	—	—
Deene ...	41	—	15	—	25	—	1	—
Deenethorpe ...	26	—	3	—	22	—	1	—
Denford ...	103	35	1	—	10	57	—	—
Duddington ...	80	3	9	—	55	13	—	—
Easton-on-the-Hill	253	—	14	—	41	198	—	—
Fineshade ...	16	—	1	1	9	—	5	—
Fotheringhay ...	58	—	20	—	38	—	—	—
Glaphorn ...	81	—	8	1	67	—	5	—
Great Addington ...	79	27	2	—	14	34	2	—
Hargrave ...	70	26	—	—	1	43	—	—
Harringworth ...	66	—	2	10	9	—	45	—
Hemington ...	29	10	—	—	—	19	—	—
Islip ...	217	161	—	—	5	51	—	—
King's Cliffe ...	278	102	9	—	3	157	7	—
Laxton ...	31	—	12	2	7	8	2	—
Lilford-cum- Wigsthorpe ...	40	28	—	—	3	9	—	—
Little Addington ...	86	41	1	—	2	42	—	—
Lowick ...	90	2	1	29	20	—	38	—
Luddington ...	21	6	—	—	1	14	—	—
Lutton ...	41	24	1	—	2	14	—	—
Nassington ...	158	1	22	4	101	—	30	—
Pilton ...	25	—	4	1	7	—	13	—
Polebrook ...	94	59	3	—	1	31	—	—
Ringstead ...	289	229	—	—	13	46	—	1
Southwick ...	50	3	11	1	30	—	5	—
Slipton ...	23	—	1	2	7	—	13	—
Stoke Doyle ...	27	—	5	—	22	—	—	—
Sudborough ...	64	—	8	19	2	—	33	2
Tansor ...	50	3	15	—	32	—	—	—
Thorpe Achurch ...	51	20	2	—	20	9	—	—
Thrapston ...	565	311	10	—	18	226	—	—
Thurning ...	38	20	—	—	2	16	—	—
Titchmarsh... ..	189	80	4	—	35	69	—	1
Twywell ...	125	32	2	—	15	76	—	—
Wadenhoe ...	42	—	2	5	34	—	—	1
Wakerley ...	35	—	6	—	29	—	—	—
Warmington ...	176	113	3	—	15	45	—	—
Woodford ...	424	300	1	4	5	114	—	—
Woodnewton ...	76	13	9	—	51	3	—	—
Yarwell ...	103	—	45	2	49	—	7	—

The following analysis reports are given:—

WOODFORD REGIONAL SCHEME.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled "Tap in Main Street, Aldwinckle—Regional Supply No. 1" received on the 5th September, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.2
The sample contained:						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	6.15
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0026
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0501
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.55
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=3

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=20

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—22.46 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

The slight bacterial contamination may decrease in course of time with use of the supply.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

9th September, 1949.

(b) Bacterial Examination.

Date.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.		Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.		Remarks.	
11. 1.49	...	130/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Unsatisfactory, but no evidence of faecal pollution.
22. 9.49	...	25/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
10.11.49	...	8/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution.
23.11.49	...	2/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Satisfactory

RINGSTEAD WATER SUPPLY.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled "Standpipe in High Street, Ringstead from Regional Supply No. 1" received on the 12th August, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.3
The sample contained:						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	6.4
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0018
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0052
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0593
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.75
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=nil

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=6

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—22.88 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of the opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,

Public Analyst.

16th August, 1949.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.	Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.	Remarks.
11. 1.49	...	...	80/100 c.c.	5/100 c.c.	Unsatisfactory water, with evidence of slight faecal pollution
18. 1.49	...	...	5/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Slightly suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution
31. 1.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Very Satisfactory
2. 2.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
28. 2.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Satisfactory
7. 3.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
24. 5.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
22. 9.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto

GREAT ADDINGTON WATER SUPPLY.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.	Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.	Remarks.
11. 1.49	...	...	50/100 c.c.	13/100 c.c.	Unsatisfactory water, with evidence of slight faecal pollution.
18. 1.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Very Satisfactory
31. 1.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
2. 2.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
28. 2.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
24.10.49	...	...	5/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Slightly suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution

THRAPSTON WATER SUPPLY.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.	Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.	Remarks.
7. 1.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Very Satisfactory
2. 2.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
7. 2.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
7. 3.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Satisfactory
24. 5.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
22. 9.49	...	...	2/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
17.10.49	...	...	11/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution
10.11.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Very Satisfactory
23.11.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto
19.12.49	...	...	0/100 c.c.	0/100 c.c.	Ditto

BARNWELL REGIONAL SCHEME.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled "Regional Supply No. 2, taken at Warmington" received on the 5th January, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.3
The sample contained :						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	7.55
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0034
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0056
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0625
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.10
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	.....	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=*nil*

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—21.86 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

10th January, 1949

Sample of Water labelled "Regional Supply No. 2" received on the 5th April, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.3
The sample contained :						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	6.9
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0006
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0022
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.00443
Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=*nil*

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—19.68 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

11th April, 1949.

Sample of Water labelled "Regional Supply No. 2 taken at Warmington" received on the 25th July, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.3
The sample contained :						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	6.15
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0024
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0474
Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

None.

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—19.26 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of the opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

2nd August, 1949.

Sample of Water labelled " Regional Supply No. 2 taken from Warmington " received on the 5th October, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.2
The sample contained :						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	7.75
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0006
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0102
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0625
Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.= 5

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=17

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—19.26 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a hard water slightly contaminated with organic matter and with micro-organisms capable of development at blood heat and at the temperature of the " cool " incubator. Coliform organisms, however, could not be detected in 100 mls. of the sample.

I am of the opinion that this water, as evidenced by the sample, is safe for drinking purposes. It is to be recommended, however, that an effort be made to reduce the bacterial content.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

10th October, 1949.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37 C.			Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44- C.			Remarks.
3. 1.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory
31. 1.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
21. 2.49	5/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Slightly sus- icious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution.
4. 4.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory
2. 5.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
16. 5.49	2/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Satisfactory
13. 6.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory
8. 8.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
5. 9.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
5. 9.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
4.10.49	9/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
7.11.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto
6.12.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto

BENEFIELD WATER SUPPLY.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.			Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.			Remarks.
14. 3.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory
5. 8.49	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Ditto

DUDDINGTON WATER SUPPLY.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled "Duddington (Stewart and Lloyds) Water Supply" received on the 26th April, 1949, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	pH 7.3
The sample contained :	Parts per 100,000				
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	4.2
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	0.0088
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	.....	...	...	...	0.0108
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	0.0227
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	0.005
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	Zinc, faint trace

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=*nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=5

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—24.10 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a hard water, slightly contaminated with organic matter though containing few bacteria. The presence of a faint trace of Zinc should be noted.

I am of the opinion that this water, as evidenced by the sample, is fit for drinking purposes. It is to be recommended, however, that the supply be kept under observation.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

2nd May, 1949.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.		Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 4° C.		Remarks.
	
2.11.49	...	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	Very Satisfactory

Sewerage.

The construction of new sewers and sewage disposal works at King's Cliffe was commenced during the year, and should be in operation during 1950.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse collection was carried out during 1949 in the following parishes :—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Interval of Collection.</i>
Thrapston	Weekly
Woodford	"
Aldwincle	Fortnightly
Barnwell	"
Brigstock	"
Chelveston	"
Clapton	"
Collyweston	"
Denford	"
Duddington	"
Easton-on-the-Hill	"
Great Addington	"
Hargrave	"
Islip	"
King's Cliffe	"
Little Addington	"
Lowick	"
Ringstead	"
Slipton	"
Sudborough	"
Thorpe	"
Titchmarsh	"
Twywell	"
Achurch	Monthly
Apethorpe	"
Ashton	"
Benefield	"
Blatherwycke	"
Bulwick	"
Collyweston	"
Cot erstock	"
Deene	"
Deenethorpe	"
Fineshade	"
Fotheringhay	"
Glaphorn	"
Harringworth	"
Hemington	"
Laxton	"
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe	"
Luddington	"
Lutton	"
Nassington	"
Pilton	"
Polebrooke	"
Southwick	"
Stoke Doyle	"
Tansor	"
Thurning	"
Wadenhoe	"
Wakerley	"
Warmington	"
Woodnewton	"
Yarwell	"

Shops and Offices.

Routine visits under the Shops Acts and Public Health Acts were carried out during the year.

Camping Sites.

No area in the District is licensed as a site for camping purposes. Seven Licences authorising the use of moveable dwellings are in operation.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public swimming baths in this area.

Schools.

There are 36 schools in use in the district, Main water is available to 23 of these schools, and 17 are connected to this supply.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The acute shortage of satisfactory housing accommodation remains one of the Council's major problems.

At the end of the year 174 permanent post-war houses had been built and 107 were under construction. The number of applicants for housing accommodation was 686.

Informal notices requiring repairs to dwellings have been largely confined to work of an urgent nature, following Ministry of Health recommendations. No comprehensive action has yet been taken for the reconditioning of the 2,300 houses in the area scheduled for improvement. In many instances it has been necessary to require urgent repair work to be carried out at houses which normally would be dealt with under demolition or reconditioning procedure.

The following is a summary of housing work carried out during the year :—

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	546
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	862
2. (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/32	...	...	...	...	114
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	260
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	964
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	2315

(1948 Report)

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	124
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1.	Number of dwelling-house in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	—
2.	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	—
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	2
C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made, or an undertaking accepted	2
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	—
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
1. Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	—
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.	
No detailed overcrowding survey was carried out during the year.	

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food and Drugs Act.

During the year, the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was administered within the limitations imposed by general economic conditions. The general conditions at food-preparing premises are satisfactory, but structural alterations to premises are necessary in several instances, and will be enforced as circumstances permit.

Milk Supply.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, which transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture the duty of registration of dairy farms, came into operation on October 1st, 1949.

At that date, the number of premises in the district registered by the Council under Milk and Dairies Regulations was :—

Premises producing Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	37
Premises producing Accredited Milk	33
Retailers of Pasteurised Milk	6

The number of milk distributors other than dairy farmers registered by the Council under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, is four.

Pasteurised Milk.

There are no pasteurising plants in the district, all heat-treated milk being sent into the area from Peterborough, Fenstanton, Wellingborough or Kettering. Routine samples submitted to the laboratory for examination by the phosphatase test were reported upon as shown in the table below.

Examination of Milk.

Samples of milk taken from retailers during delivery have been submitted at regular intervals to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

<i>Type of Milk</i>	<i>Number of Samples.</i>	<i>Results.</i>	
		<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Raw... ..	91	65	26
Pasteurised...	2	2	<i>nil</i>

Investigations and further sampling were carried out in the cases of adverse reports.

Meat Inspection.

All animals intended for sale for food in this area are slaughtered at the Rushden, Kettering or Peterborough Abattoirs. All such meat is inspected by the Sanitary Officers in the respective Districts. No unsound carcase meat has been offered for sale in this area.

There has been some improvement in the method of bulk transport of meat to retailers during the year. Metal-lined covered vehicles are used to bring meat into the area. The clothing worn by personnel requires to be improved, and metal containers should be provided for offal. The Council have approved the adoption of Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and it is expected that enforcement of these Byelaws will ultimately result in a general improvement in food handling.

Ice-cream.

At the end of the year two premises were registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture of ice-cream, and twenty-one for the storage and sale of ice-cream.

The provisions of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, were complied with in all cases.

All bacteriological examinations of this food are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton.

Preserved Foods.

The number of premises registered by the Council for the preparation or manufacture of preserved foods is twenty-one.

Food Adulteration.

Duties in connection with the sampling of food and drugs for analysis as to composition are carried out by the County Council. No details of the results of these analyses are available.

Food Poisoning.

There were no cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year.

Food and Drugs Act Inspections.

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	326
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Food Preparing Places	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Ice-cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	68

Unsound Food.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption and destroyed :—

Meat (tinned or preserved)	...	...	...	47½ lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	40 lbs.
Belgian Cherries	...	...	...	34 bots.
Tinned Foods	...	...	...	63½ lbs.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Acts.

Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	358
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	34
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	47
Cinemas and Public Buildings	9
Miscellaneous Premises	114

Shop Acts.

Shops Act, 1934	9
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Factories Act, 1937.

There are seven factories in the District which employ outworkers. The type of outwork undertaken is clothing and the manufacture of stuffed toys. The number of outworkers are as follows :—

Wearing Apparel	...	...	...	...	108
Stuffed Toys	...	...	...	...	33

Factories Act, 1937.

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	44	6	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	42	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	88	86	9	—

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		4	—	1	—
(a) Insufficient ...	8		—		—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	5	4	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	15	10	—	2	—

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTRAL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified. This is the third successive year when no cases have occurred in the district.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 8 cases during the year as compared with 14 for the previous year.

Measles.

There were 16 cases during 1949 compared with 368 in 1948.

Whooping Cough.

The number of cases was 83, as compared with 31 in 1948. Fifty-four of these cases were notified in the months of May to July.

Dysentery.

No cases were notified.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

Four cases were notified in the district during the year.

King's Cliffe Case : This case was notified on August 16th, 1949, and was removed to Peterborough Isolation Hospital on August 18th, 1949.

Islip Cases : The first case began her illness on September 12th, 1949, the second on the 19th September and the third on the 22nd September, 1949.

The first case was notified on the 4th October, 1949, or just over three weeks from the date of onset of the illness when paralysis of the right calf muscles was well established.

The second case was of a soldier, a native of Islip, who had been in Islip from the 16th September to the 19th September, 1949. This man fell ill on the 19th September after he had returned to his unit, and was transferred to an Isolation Hospital at Coventry on the 25th September, 1949. He had paralysis of the muscles of both legs and back.

The third case was transferred from Northampton General Hospital to Northampton Isolation Hospital on the 28th September. I understand that this child had paralysis of some muscles of the right leg.

A further case was sent to the Isolation Hospital, Northampton, on October 12th, 1949. He first complained on October 10th, and weakness of muscles of both limbs, back and abdomen was apparent on October 12th, 1949. This patient died on October 28th, 1949.

I advised closure of the Islip School from the 4th to the 11th of October, 1949, that is a date three weeks after the onset of the last case. The incubation period of the disease is approximately three weeks.

Although it may be presumed there were connections between the cases, investigations have not revealed the connections. In all cases paralysis showed within a week of onset of the illness. The illness was characterised by pains in the limbs, back and neck, but with nothing specific until the onset of paralysis within a week.

Fotheringhay Case : This was a child of seven years who was taken ill on 24th October, 1949, with diarrhoea, but felt well enough to go to school on the 27th October. He did not feel well again on the 29th October and weakness of muscles ((adductors left thigh) was apparent on the 31st October. The school attended by the child was in Elton, Huntingdonshire, and the County Medical Officer of Health was notified with possible action on his part of closing Elton School for a period. The child was removed to Peterborough Isolation Hospital on November 2nd, 1949.

The cases at King's Cliffe and Fotheringhay cleared up without any permanent ill-effects.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The following tables indicate the nature of the various diseases notified, and the parishes of origin :—

	Measles	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	Polio-myelitis	Erysipelas	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	TOTAL.
Aldwinckle ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Apethorpe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barnwell ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benefield... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blatherwycke ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brigstock ...	—	—	1	—	7	—	—	—	8
Bulwick ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chelveston ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Clapton ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Collyweston ...	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	5
Cotterstock ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deenethorpe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denford ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Duddington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Easton-on-the-Hill ...	—	—	2	—	11	—	—	—	13
Fineshade ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fotheringhay ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Glaphorn ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Addington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hargrave ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Harrington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hemington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Islip ...	2	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	9
King's Cliffe ...	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
Laxton ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lilford-cum-Wigthorpe ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Little Addington ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Lowick ...	1	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	9
Luddington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lutton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nassington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pilton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polebrook ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ringstead ...	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	6
Southwick ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stoke Doyle ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Sudborough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tansor ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Achurch ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thrapston ...	—	2	1	—	21	—	1	—	25
Thurning ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Titchmarsh ...	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	15
Twywell ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Wadenhoe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wakerley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Warmington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Woodford ...	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	4
Woodnewton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yarwell ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
TOTALS ...	16	8	8	1	83	4	5	1	126

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Month.	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Ophthalmic Neonatorum	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	TOTAL
January ...	4	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	9
February ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
March ...	7	4	—	1	1	—	—	1	14
April ...	1	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	12
May ...	2	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
June ...	2	17	1	—	—	—	—	—	20
July ...	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
August ...	—	7	1	—	—	1	4	—	10
September ...	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	5
October ...	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	4
November ...	—	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	11
December ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ...	16	83	8	8	1	4	5	1	126

The Registered Causes of Death were :—

	Male	Female	Total,
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever...	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	3	4	7
7. Tuberculosis—Other Forms ...	—	1	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases ...	—	—	—
9. Influenza ...	4	3	7
10. Measles ...	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis : Polio Encephalitis ...	1	—	1
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	1	—	1
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus ...	1	3	4
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	5	4	9
15. Cancer of Breast ...	1	4	5
16. Cancer of all other Sites ...	13	17	30
17. Diabetes ...	2	1	3
18. Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesion ...	15	21	36
19. Heart Disease ...	28	25	53
20. Other Diseases of Circulation ...	4	2	6
21. Bronchitis ...	13	5	18
22. Pneumonia ...	—	8	8
23. Other Respiratory Diseases...	3	—	3
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	2	1	3
25. Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ...	—	—	—
27. Other Digestive Disorders ...	1	—	1
28. Nephritis ...	2	2	4
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes ...	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth ...	2	1	3
32. Congenital Malformation : Birth Injury or Infantile Disorder ...	3	1	4
33. Suicide ...	4	—	4
34. Road Traffic Accidents ...	1	—	1
35. Other Violent Causes ...	4	—	4
36. All other Causes ...	15	17	32
	128	120	248



